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| CCQs | Notes |
| Change won’t happen so easily, though they could do trial-and-error.  I suppose nothing is perfect…  Why not just withdraw, it seems like a lost cause, just like other events, such as China and the Korean War.  What would he gain from the Watergate Scandal, if it had gone successfully? | MI (1st + 2nd): Richard Nixon was elected in 1968 and new interest groups were mobilizing.  Details:   * Nixon’s election was a result of the strong and popular reaction to what many Americans thought a frontal assault to their traditions. * New values and assumptions were emerging to challenge traditional patterns of thought and behavior, creating a cultural revolution.   MI (3rd + 4th): Most Americans had feared the changes, some did. Nixon was a man who matched their mood.  Details:   * There was resentment towards: helping the poor and unemployed, against the federal social programs that were giving money to the poor and unemployed, the increasing tax burden upon the middle class, and the new interest groups. * Americans wanted stability and relegitimation of traditional centers of authority. * Nixon was a result of a hardworking, middle-class family and had rise to prominence because of his own efforts and his dedication to traditional values. * Even with these facts, it did not return to calmness and stability, it escalated.   MI (5th): Some problems were not created by Nixon, he added to them.  Details:   * The Vietnam War was given to him, he tried to reduce the unpopularity of the war by replacing American soldiers with Vietnamese ones. * He escalated the war by authorizing higher levels of bombing and through an incursion into Cambodia in the spring of 1970; this created more opposition. * One more crisis given to him was a declining economy.   MI (6th): One crisis he had made, the first ever to be made by a president (for now).  Details:   * There was a breach at the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Washington in June 1972. * This event had grown enough to drive a president from office. * Nixon left the office, creating a major crisis of authority himself during his presidency. |
| Summary: Richard Nixon was elected to bring stability and calmness back, through restoring the crisis of authority. He was born from an average, hard-working family; he was against the changes like most Americans. He inherited several crises and made them worse than before. In his presidency, he was involved in a scandal which drove him out of the office. | |